



Photo by Lisa Gonzales

Luncheon celebrates Native-American Heritage

The Sky City Dancers from the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center perform traditional dances during a luncheon at the Mountain View Club, as part of Native-American Heritage Month. During the month, Team Kirtland participated in the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute Career Fair and a partnership project with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Habitat for Humanity. Team Kirtland works to provide volunteers to help Habitat for Humanity build homes on Pueblo land.

Give the Gift of Reading

BY MAJ. LISA MCCOLGAN

377th Comptroller Squadron
commander

This year you have the opportunity to “give the gift of reading” to a kindergarten student at Wherry Elementary School. The Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce and Albuquerque Public School System have teamed to help students at three Albuquerque elementary schools become stronger readers through the Albuquerque Reads program. Team Kirtland is providing many of the volunteers at one of our local schools, Wherry Elementary, and is in need of approximately 30 more adult tutors.

Albuquerque Reads is a literacy program designed to help kindergarten children start first grade reading at or above grade level. Tutors spend one hour at the school each week (or can share that time with a team). During that hour, the tutor works 30 minutes with two different students. They first read to a child or help the child read for 10 minutes, followed by a writing activity for 10 minutes and finish up with a phonics and word recognition exercise. The children

then switch and the same process is completed.

Col. Hank Andrews, 377th Air Base Wing commander, has endorsed the program and has allowed appropriated fund civilian employees in the 377th Air Base Wing 1.5 hours of work time weekly to volunteer for the Albuquerque Reads program during the 2004-05 school year. All employees interested in volunteering need their supervisors’ approval.

This holiday season, you truly can provide one of the greatest gifts of all – allowing a student the opportunity to learn how to read and write! Your dedication will help secure the futures of local students. Please consider volunteering your time.

For information, contact the Albuquerque Reads program lead, Genevieve Molina at 830-8087 or molina_g@aps.edu, or Major Lisa McColgan at 846-7296. Questions about excused absences can be addressed to your servicing employee-management relations specialist in the Civilian Personnel Flight, 846-8079. For a volunteer application, visit the web site at www.kirtland.af.mil/doc/Albuquerque%20Reads.pdf.